

DIASCIA PLANT NAMED 'DIASPETIS'**Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed**

Diascia barberae

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Varietal Denomination

'Diaspetis'

Background of the new plant

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The present invention comprises a new distinct cultivar of *Diascia*, botanically known as *Diascia barberae*.

The new cultivar is propagated from cuttings resulting from the cross of 'B15' and 'B139'. 'B15' is a deeprose flowering *Diascia* having. 'B15' is not commercially available and is not known by any synonyms. 'B139' is a pink flowering *Diascia*. 'B139' is not commercially available and is not known by any synonyms. Neither 'B15' nor 'B139' has been patented.

As a result of this cross the present cultivar was created in 2000 in Enkhuizen, Netherlands and has been repeatedly asexually reproduced by cuttings in Enkhuizen, Netherlands and Sarrians, France over a three-year period. It has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive propagations, and this novelty appears to be firmly fixed.

This new *Diascia* plant is an annual in most climatical zones in the US, only in zones 7, 8, 9 and 10 it is a perennial plant.

Description of the drawing

This new *Diascia* plant is illustrated by the accompanying photographic drawing which shows blooms, buds and foliage of the plant in full color, the color shown being as true as can be

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reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

Description of the new cultivar

- 5 The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive characteristics of this new *Diascia*. The data which defines these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Enkhuizen, Netherlands. The plant history was taken on 10 weeks old plants, blossomed under natural light in a greenhouse.
- 10 Color readings were taken in the greenhouse under ambient light. Color references are primarily to the RHS Colour Chart of the Royal Horticultural Society of London.

Differences between the new cultivar 'Diaspetis,' its parents and a similar cultivar

	'Diaspetis'	'B15'	'B139'	'Rupert Lambert'
Flower color	Deepose	Deeprose	Pink	Deeprose
Plant size	Medium	Medium	Small	Small
Leaf size	Medium	Medium	Small	Small
Internodes	Short	Medium	Short	Long

The Plant

- 15 Classification - Botanical : *Diascia barberae*
- Parentage - Female parent : A seedling named 'B15' is one of our seedlings from our B-generation of plants bred in 1996.
- Pollen parent : A seedling named 'B139' is one of our seedlings from our B-generation of plants bred in 1996.
- 20 Growth habit : Compact, later spreading
- Plant height : 14-23 cm
- Spreading area of plant : 18-26 cm

	Growth rate	: Vigorous
	Strength	: Very good
	Branching character	: Freely branching and lateral branching at every node
	Quantity of branches	: 100-120 branches per plant
5	Blooming period	: From April until November

The Stem

	Diameter	: 0.5-1.0 mm
	Shape	: Round
10	Color	: 141B
	Anthocyan pigmentation	: Absent
	Length of internode	
	- Vegetative growth	: 10-20 mm
	- Generative growth	: 10-30 mm
15	Pubescence	: Not pubescent

The Foliage

	Phyllotaxis	: Opposite
	Shape of blade	: Cordate to ovate
20	Texture	- Upper side : Smooth
		- Lower side : Smooth
	Attachment to leaf	: Petiolate
	Venation	: Pinnate
	Leaf margin	: Crenate
25	Leaf base	: Subcordate
	Leaf apex	: Abruptly acute
	Length	: 13-18 mm
	Width	: 8-18 mm

Depth of incision	:	1 mm
Color	- Upper side	: 138A
	- Lower side	: 138B
Pubescence	:	No pubescence
5 Length of petiole	:	2-3 mm
Color of petiole	:	138A
Petiole surface texture	:	Smooth

The Bud

10	Peduncle length	:	25-35 mm, depending on season
	Peduncle shape	:	Long and threadlike
	Size of the bud - Length	:	3 mm
	- Diameter	:	3 mm
	Shape	:	Oval
15	Color	:	141A
	Sepals	- Color	: 141A
		- Form	: Star-shaped
		- Number	: 5, parted
		- Size	: 1-2 mm
20		- Shape	: Elliptic, apex acute
		- Margin	: Entire
		- Texture	: Smooth

The Flower

25	Flower width	:	14-15 mm
	Flower length	:	14-18 mm
	Flower depth	:	6-8 mm
	Flower aspect	:	Tipped upward and outward

	Borne	:	Solitary
	Form	:	Zygomorphic, five lobed, double nectar spur
	Cluster	:	Raceme
	Color - Upper surface	:	67D
5	- Lower surface	:	68B
	Overlapping of the petals	:	Separate
	Number of petals	:	Five
	Shape of the petals	:	Two upper banner petals, two lateral petals and one
10			larger basal lip petal. Base of two banner petals
			form a small yellow indentation (color yellow 9A)
			just above the reproductive organs. Center of two
			lateral petals form curved nectar spurs. Rounded lip
			petal is much larger and forms a nearly horizontal
			‘platform’
15	Petal margin	:	Entire
	Petal surface texture	:	Smooth
	Size of the banner petals		
	- Length	:	3-5 mm
	- Width	:	4-7 mm
20	Size of the lateral petals		
	- Length	:	3-5 mm
	- Width	:	4-6 mm
	Size of the basal lip petal		
	- Length	:	10-12 mm
25	- Width	:	10-12 mm
	Spur - Length	:	8 mm
	- Color	:	Greyed purple 180B

- Number of flowers per raceme : 25-50
- Fragrance : No fragrance
- Lastingness of the bloom : New florets continue to open in one raceme over a period of 18 days
- 5 Lastingness of one flower : About 5 days depending on temperature

The Reproductive Organs

- Androecium - Stamen number : Three
- Anther shape : Two-lobed
- 10 - Anther size : Less than 1 mm
- Anther color : Yellow 7A
- Amount of pollen : Very much pollen
- Pollen color : Yellow 7A
- Gynoecium - Pistil number : 1
- 15 - Stigma shape : Rounded
- Pistil length : 2-3 mm
- Style color : Green 143A
- Stigma color : Green white 157A
- Ovary color : Green 134A

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The Seed

- Seedset : No seedset has been observed

The Roots

- 25 Type of roots : Fibrous
- Rooting habit : Fine and freely branching

Physiological and ecological characteristics:

Good tolerance to heat and cold. Strong resistance to pests and diseases.